

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for securing intellectual property rights, the method comprising:
providing, from a first server computer to a client computer, an electronic invention disclosure form to be filled out;
actively prompting a user of the client computer to provide information corresponding to an invention into pre-selected fields of the ~~smart~~ electronic invention disclosure form;
receiving a filled-out invention disclosure in electronic form on the first server;
and
automatically converting the invention disclosure form into a format of a patent application in response to a single click instruction input by the user on the first client and received by the server.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
active prompting of an inventor by the disclosure form to provide best modes known to the inventor for practicing an invention.
3. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 2 further comprising:
active prompting of an inventor by the disclosure form to provide detailed information required to enable one of ordinary skill to practice the invention.
4. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 3 further comprising:
active prompting of an inventor by the disclosure form to identify co-inventors, if any, of the invention,

wherein the disclosure form prompts an inventor to input information in pre-selected fields.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4:
wherein information in pre-selected fields of the invention disclosure form is selectively placed in a pre-selected location in said patent application.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the single click also causes the patent application to be filed at a patent office.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the patent application is filed at the patent office electronically.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 further comprising:
executing the patent application with a digital signature of an inventor, assignee, or registered patent practitioner before the patent application is filed.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 further comprising:
encrypting the patent application with a private key of the inventor, assignee, or registered patent practitioner before the patent application is filed.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising:
maintaining a registry of public keys at the patent office; and
decrypting the patent application with a public key for the inventor, assignee, or registered patent practitioner.

11. (Original) The method of claim 7 further comprising:
transmitting notification that the patent application was filed to an intellectual property (IP) server.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
automatic calendaring by the IP server of a deadline date for foreign filing under
an international convention.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising:
transmitting a reminder communication from the IP server to a specified address
at a specified time period before the deadline date.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the patent application
comprises a provisional patent application and further comprising:
automatic calendaring by the IP server of a deadline date for converting the
provisional patent application to a non-provisional patent application.

15. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:
providing drawing tool icons to facilitate creation of figures to be included in the
filled-out invention disclosure.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising:
active prompting of the inventor by the smart disclosure form to create figures
depicting novel aspects of the invention.

17. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising:
receiving as input a single click on a scan button to cause a drawing to be scanned
and included as a figure in the filled-out invention disclosure form.

18–37. (Canceled)

38. (Currently Amended) A computer program embodied on one or more
computer readable medium, the computer program comprising instructions executable by one or
more computers to:

provide, from a first server computer to a client computer, an electronic invention
disclosure form to be filled out;

actively prompt a user of the client computer to provide information corresponding to an invention into pre-selected fields of the electronic invention disclosure form; ~~receiving~~ receive a filled-out invention disclosure in electronic form on the first server; and

automatically convert the invention disclosure form into a format of a patent application in response to a single click instruction input by the user on the first client and received by the server.

39. (Currently Amended) A computer server for securing intellectual property rights, the computer server comprising a processor and a computer readable medium, the computer readable medium comprising instructions executable by the processor to:

provide to a client computer an electronic invention disclosure form to be filled out;

actively prompt a user of the client computer to provide information corresponding to an invention into pre-selected fields of the electronic invention disclosure form; receive from the client computer a filled-out invention disclosure in electronic form; and

~~automatically converting~~ convert the invention disclosure form into a format of a patent application in response to a single click instruction input received from the user on the client computer.